

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) An attachment system for connecting a lip plate of a digging device to a ground engaging tool, comprising:

a lug mounted on the lip plate and including a rear face;

an engaging recess arranged in a rearwardly extending attachment portion of the ground engaging tool, extending inwardly of the attachment portion from a rear surface thereof, the engaging recess being arranged to received the lug;

a lug engaging member insertable into the engaging recess from the rear surface of the attachment portion, the lug engaging member arranged to engage the rear face of the lug;

a clamping member arranged to be received longitudinally in the engaging recess, the clamping member comprising a substantially cylindrical chamber housing the lug engaging member;

a resilient member coupled to the lug engaging member opposite the lug; and
a compressive member at least partially insertable into the engaging recess from the rear surface of the attachment portion to apply a compressive force to the resilient member to engage the lug engaging member with the rear face of the lug and restrain a longitudinal movement of the lug relative to the ground engaging tool.

14. (Previously Presented) An attachment system according to claim 13, wherein the clamping member comprises a front wall and an outer portion of the lug engaging member extends outwardly from the front wall.

15. (Previously Presented) An attachment system according to claim 13, wherein the substantially cylindrical chamber comprises a rear wall arranged to received the compressive force through an aperture arranged on the rear wall.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~An attachment system for connecting a lip plate of a digging device to a ground engaging tool, comprising:~~

~~a lug mounted on the lip plate and including a rear face;~~

~~an engaging recess arranged in a rearwardly extending attachment portion of the ground engaging tool, extending inwardly of the attachment portion from a rear surface thereof, the engaging recess being arranged to received the lug;~~

~~a lug engaging member insertable into the engaging recess from the rear surface of the attachment portion, the lug engaging member arranged to engage the rear face of the lug;~~ An attachment system according to claim 13, wherein the lug engaging member comprises a substantially cylindrical recess extending inwardly from a rear end thereof,[[[:]]

~~a resilient member coupled to the lug engaging member opposite the lug; wherein the resilient member is mounted in the substantially cylindrical recess of the lug engaging member;~~ and

~~a compressive member at least partially insertable into the engaging recess from the rear surface of the attachment portion to apply a compressive force to the resilient member to engage the lug engaging member with the rear face of the lug and restrain a longitudinal movement of the lug relative to the ground engaging tool.~~

17. (Previously Presented) An attachment system according to claim 13, wherein the lug engaging chamber comprises a rear wall including a slot, the lug engaging chamber being arranged to receive the compressive force through the slot, the slot being internally threaded and arranged to receive a threaded bolt, the bolt being threadably engaged within the slot to apply compressive force to the resilient member upon application of a turning force to press the lug engaging member into engagement with the lug.

18. (Previously Presented) An attachment system according to claim 13, further comprising a stabilizing member arranged to prevent an outward longitudinal movement of the clamping member.

19. (Previously Presented) An attachment system according to claim 18, further comprising an aperture extending from an upper surface of the attachment portion and communicating with the engaging recess, wherein the stabilizing member is insertable through the aperture into the engaging recess to engage with the clamping member, thereby preventing outward longitudinal movement of the clamping member from the engaging recess.

20. (Previously Presented) An attachment system according to claim 19, wherein an inner wall of the engaging recess is grooved.

21. (Previously Presented) An attachment system according to claim 19, wherein the stabilizing member comprises a second aperture arranged in alignment with the aperture.

22. (Previously Presented) An attachment system according to claim 13, wherein the engaging recess comprises:

an open lower end;

a first portion remote from the rear surface of the attachment portion, the first portion being complementary in shape to the lug to receive the lug; and

a second portion adjacent the rear surface of the attachment portion, the second portion having a substantially constant cross section of slightly larger dimension than the lug to be placed about the lug to restrict a lateral relative movement of the ground engaging tool and the lip plate.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) A ground engaging tool for connection to a lip plate, the lip plate including a lug mounted thereon, the ground engagement tool comprising:

a rearwardly extending attachment portion having a rear surface and containing an engaging recess extending inwardly of the attachment portion from the rear surface, the engaging recess being arranged to received the lug;

a lug engaging member insertable into the engaging recess from the rear surface of the attachment portion, the lug engaging member arranged to engage a rear face of the lug;

a clamping member arranged to be received longitudinally in the engaging recess, the clamping member comprising a substantially cylindrical chamber containing the lug engaging member;

a resilient member coupled to the lug engaging member opposite the lug; and

a compressive member at least partially insertable into the engaging recess from the rear surface of the attachment portion to apply a compressive force to the resilient member to engage the lug engaging member with the rear face of the lug and restrain a longitudinal movement of the lug relative to the ground engaging tool.

25. (Previously Presented) A ground engaging tool according to claim 24, wherein the clamping member comprises a front wall and an outer portion of the lug engaging member extends outwardly from the front wall.

26. (Previously Presented) A ground engaging tool according to claim 24, wherein the substantially cylindrical chamber comprises a rear wall arranged to received the compressive force through an aperture arranged on the rear wall.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~A ground engaging tool for connection to a lip plate, the lip plate including a lug mounted thereof, the ground engagement tool comprising:~~

~~an engaging recess arranged in a rearwardly extending attachment portion of the ground engaging tool, extending inwardly of the attachment portion from a rear surface thereof, the engaging recess being arranged to received the lug;~~

~~a lug engaging member insertable into the engaging recess from the rear surface of the attachment portion, the lug engaging member arranged to engage the rear face of the lug;~~ A ground engaging tool according to claim 24, wherein the lug engaging member comprises a substantially cylindrical recess extending inwardly from a rear end thereof, wherein the resilient member is mounted in the substantially cylindrical recess[;]]

~~a resilient member coupled to the lug engaging member opposite the lug; and~~

~~a compressive member at least partially insertable into the engaging recess from the rear surface of the attachment portion to apply a compressive force to the resilient member to engage the lug engaging member with the rear face of the lug and restrain a longitudinal movement of the lug relative to the ground engaging tool .~~

28. (Previously Presented) A ground engaging tool according to claim 24, wherein the lug engaging chamber comprises a rear wall including a slot, the lug engaging chamber being arranged to receive the compressive force through the slot, the slot being internally threaded and arranged to receive a threaded bolt, the bolt being threadably engaged within the slot to apply compressive force to the resilient member upon application of a turning force to press the lug engaging member into engagement with the lug.

29. (Previously Presented) A ground engaging tool according to claim 24, further comprising a stabilizing member arranged to prevent an outward longitudinal movement of the clamping member.

30. (Previously Presented) A ground engaging tool according to claim 29, further comprising an aperture extending from an upper surface of the attachment portion and communicating with the engaging recess, wherein the stabilizing member is insertable through the aperture into the engaging recess to engage with the clamping member, thereby preventing outward longitudinal movement of the clamping member from the engaging recess.

31. (Previously Presented) A ground engaging tool according to claim 30, wherein an inner wall of the engaging recess is grooved.

32. (Previously Presented) A ground engaging tool according to claim 30, wherein the stabilizing member comprises a second aperture arranged in alignment with the aperture.

33. (Previously Presented) A ground engaging tool according to claim 24, wherein the engaging recess comprises:
an open lower end;

a first portion remote from the rear surface of the attachment portion, the first portion being complementary in shape to the lug to receive the lug; and

a second portion adjacent the rear surface of the attachment portion, the second portion having a substantially constant cross section of slightly larger dimension than the lug to be placed about the lug to restrict a lateral relative movement of the ground engaging tool and the lip plate.